

***What Every Member of the  
Trade Community Should Know About:***

# ***Distinguishing Bolts From Screws***



An Advanced Level  
Informed Compliance Publication of the  
U.S. Customs Service

Revised May 2000

## **NOTICE:**

This publication is intended to provide guidance and information to the trade community. It reflects the Customs Service's position on or interpretation of the applicable laws or regulations as of the date of publication, which is shown on the front cover. It does not in any way replace or supersede those laws or regulations. Only the latest official version of the laws or regulations is authoritative.

### *Publication History*

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NOTE: This publication has been revised to correct the misplacement of certain illustrations in some electronic versions of the earlier edition and to update the Additional Information section

## **PRINTING NOTE:**

This publication was designed for electronic distribution via the Customs Electronic Bulletin Board and Customs World Wide Web site (<http://www.customs.gov>) and is being distributed in a variety of formats. It was originally set up in Microsoft Word97®. Pagination and margins in downloaded versions may vary depending upon which word processor or printer you use. If you wish to maintain the original settings, you may wish to download the .pdf version, which can then be printed using the freely available Adobe Acrobat Reader®.

## PREFACE

On December 8, 1993, Title VI of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 103-182, 107 Stat. 2057), also known as the Customs Modernization or “Mod” Act, became effective. These provisions amended many sections of the Tariff Act of 1930 and related laws.

Two new concepts that emerge from the Mod Act are “***informed compliance***” and “***shared responsibility***,” which are premised on the idea that in order to maximize voluntary compliance with Customs laws and regulations, the trade community needs to be clearly and completely informed of its legal obligations. Accordingly, the Mod Act imposes a greater obligation on Customs to provide the public with improved information concerning the trade community's rights and responsibilities under the Customs and related laws. In addition, both the trade and Customs share responsibility for carrying out these requirements. For example, under Section 484 of the Tariff Act as amended (19 U.S.C. §1484), the importer of record is responsible for using reasonable care to enter, classify and determine the value of imported merchandise and to provide any other information necessary to enable Customs to properly assess duties, collect accurate statistics, and determine whether other applicable legal requirements, if any, have been met. The Customs Service is then responsible for fixing the final classification and value of the merchandise. An importer of record's failure to exercise reasonable care could delay release of the merchandise and, in some cases, could result in the imposition of penalties.

The Office of Regulations and Rulings has been given a major role in meeting Customs informed compliance responsibilities. In order to provide information to the public, Customs has issued a series of informed compliance publications, and videos, on new or revised Customs requirements, regulations or procedures, and a variety of classification and valuation issues.

The National Commodity Specialist Division of the Office of Regulations and Rulings has prepared this publication on ***Distinguishing Bolts from Screws***, as part of a series of informed compliance publications regarding the classification of imported merchandise. It is hoped that this material, together with seminars and increased access to Customs rulings, will help the trade community in improving voluntary compliance with the Customs laws.

The material in this publication is provided for general information purposes only. Because many complicated factors can be involved in customs issues, an importer may wish to obtain a ruling under Customs Regulations, 19 CFR Part 177, or to obtain advice from an expert who specializes in customs matters, for example, a licensed customs broker, attorney or consultant. Reliance solely on the information in this pamphlet may not be considered reasonable care.

Comments and suggestions are welcomed and should be addressed to the Assistant Commissioner at the Office of Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20229.

Stuart P. Seidel,  
Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Regulations and Rulings

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## I. INTRODUCTION

When goods are imported into the Customs Territory of the United States (the fifty states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico), they are subject to certain formalities involving the U.S. Customs Service. In almost all cases, the goods are required to be “entered,” that is, declared to the Customs Service, and are subject to detention and examination by Customs officers to insure compliance with all laws and regulations enforced or administered by the United States Customs Service. As part of the entry process, goods must be “classified” (determined where in the U.S. tariff system they fall) and their value must be determined. Pursuant to the Customs Modernization Act, it is now the responsibility of the importer of record to use “reasonable care” to “enter,” “classify” and “value” the goods and provide any other information necessary to enable the Customs Service to properly assess duties, collect accurate statistics, and determine whether all other applicable legal requirements are met.

Classifying goods is important not only for duty purposes, but also to determine whether the goods are subject to quotas, restraints, anti-dumping or countervailing duties, embargoes or other restrictions. The act of classifying goods is complex and requires an importer to be familiar with the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* (HTSUS), its 99 chapters, rules of interpretation, and notes. A detailed discussion of the HTSUS may be found in a companion publication entitled, *What Every Member of the Trade Community Should Know about Tariff Classification*. Customs valuation requirements are separately discussed in a companion publication entitled, *What Every Member of the Trade Community Should Know about Customs Value*. Both of these publications are available from the Customs World Wide Web pages on the Internet (see the Additional Information section for information on accessing these sources and obtaining additional Customs Service publications).

STEEL SCREWS AND BOLTS are classified in Chapter 73, HTSUS under heading 7318. The tariff has separate provisions for the different types of screws and bolts, and separate provisions for threaded and unthreaded fasteners. The tariff pages covering the various types of steel screws and bolts which were in effect at the time of publication are reproduced here as Appendix 1. Revisions to the HTSUS are issued twice a year. Importers should check the latest version of the HTSUS at [www.usitc.gov](http://www.usitc.gov)

The Customs Service uses fastener industry standards to distinguish bolts from screws. When a fastener is described in a fastener industry dimensional standard as either a screw or a bolt, we follow that standard. When we have no dimensional standard, we go to “*Specification for Identification of Bolts and Screws*,” ANSI - ASME B18.2.1 1981 (the “*specification*”). The standard is full of industry jargon, so to make it easier to use, we have combined it here with illustrations and glossary terms from *Fastener Standards* 6th Edition, Industrial Fastener Institute, Cleveland, Ohio 44114, 1988. (This informed compliance publication is not meant to substitute for the book. Rather, it is intended to acquaint you with some of the book's contents.)

Here are a couple of helpful hints for applying the *Specification*. The *Specification* includes both primary and supplementary criteria. The primary criteria are easy enough to understand, but in applying the supplementary criteria a few things should be kept in mind.

**FIRST**, the supplementary criteria help you distinguish coarser (or loose tolerance) bolts from finer (or close tolerance) screws. When the supplementary criteria are applied, the coarser product usually turns out to be a bolt, the finer product usually turns out to be a screw. ("coarse" and "fine" are looked at from nine different aspects of the screw.) In some industries, e.g., automotive, aircraft, and aerospace, the tolerances are almost always close, so it's not often necessary to spend a lot of time on supplementary criteria when the fastener is from one of these industries; that is, if it doesn't meet the primary criteria (and of course, if it doesn't conform to a fastener industry standard for a bolt), then it probably is a screw.

**SECOND**, when applying the supplementary criteria try to avoid applying the criteria to a sample fastener. It is more effective to compare drawings to drawings. That is, if you can get a hold of the specification drawing to which the fastener was made, take that drawing and compare it to the drawing of an industry standard fastener. Compare the specification to an industry standard in order to see if a given tolerance is fine like a screw, or coarse like a bolt.

**FINALLY**, keep in mind that all of these rules are subordinate to Customs rulings and court decisions, especially *Heads and Threads vs. U.S.*, 56 CCPA 95, 417 F.2d 637, C.A.D. 960, decided by the United States Court of Customs and Patent Appeals, May 15, 1969.

## II. SPECIFICATIONS

The following is reproduced from *Specification for Identification of Bolts and Screws*, ANSI-ASME B18.2.1 1981, with illustrations from *Fastener Standards*, 6th Edition, Industrial Fasteners Institute, Cleveland, Ohio.

### 1. SCOPE

This specification establishes a recommended procedure for determining the identity of an externally threaded fastener as a bolt or as a screw.



## **2. DEFINITIONS**

### **2.1 Bolt**

A bolt is an externally threaded fastener designed for insertion through the holes in assembled parts, and is normally intended to be tightened or released by torquing a nut.

### **2.2 Screw**

A screw is an externally threaded fastener capable of being inserted into holes in assembled parts, of mating with a preformed internal thread or forming its own thread, and of being tightened or released by torquing the head.

## **3. EXPLANATORY DATA**

A bolt is designed for assembly with a nut. A screw has features in its design which make it capable of being used in a tapped or other preformed hole in the work. Because of basic design, it is possible to use certain types of screws in combination with a nut. Any externally threaded fastener which has a majority of the design characteristics which assist its proper use in a tapped or other preformed hole is a screw, regardless of how it is used in its service application.

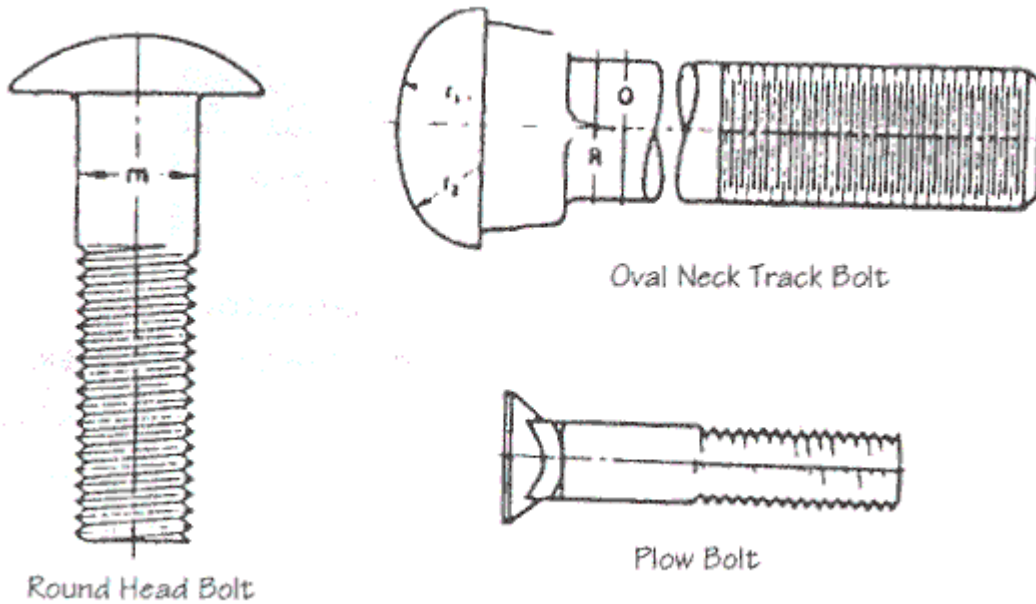
## **4. PROCEDURE**

To identify an externally threaded fastener as a bolt or as a screw, two sets of criteria - Primary and Supplementary - shall be applied. The Primary Criteria (5.1 thru 5.4) shall be applied first. Any fastener which satisfies one of the Primary Criteria shall be identified accordingly, and no further examination need be made. The Supplementary Criteria (6.1 through 6.9, and not listed in order of importance or priority of application) shall be applied to a fastener which does not satisfy completely any one of the Primary Criteria. The Supplementary Criteria detail the principal features in the design of an externally threaded fastener which contribute to its proper use as a screw. A fastener having a majority of these characteristics shall be identified as a screw.

## **5. PRIMARY CRITERIA**

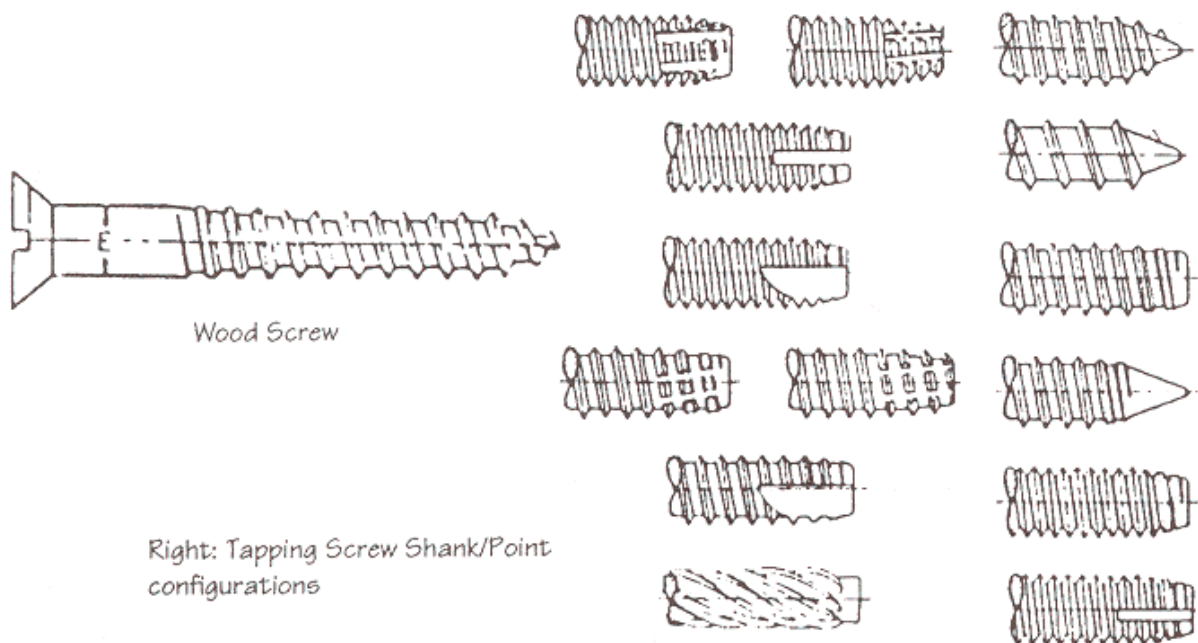
5.1 An externally threaded fastener, which because of head design or other feature, is prevented from being turned during assembly, and which can be tightened or released only by torquing a nut, is a bolt. (Example: round head bolts, track bolts, plow bolts).

EXAMPLES:



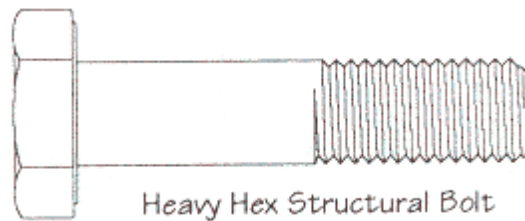
5.2 An externally threaded fastener, which has a thread form which prohibits assembly with a nut having a straight thread of multiple pitch length, is a screw. (Example: wood screws, tapping screws).

EXAMPLES:



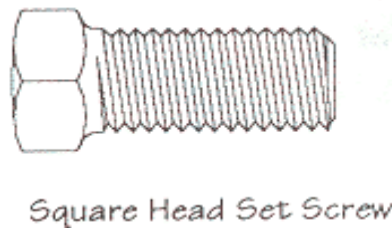
5.3 An externally threaded fastener, which must be assembled with a nut to perform its intended service, is a bolt. (Example: heavy hex structural bolt).

EXAMPLE



5.4 An externally threaded fastener, which must be torqued by its head into a tapped or other preformed hole to perform its intended service is a screw. (Example square head set screw).

EXAMPLE:



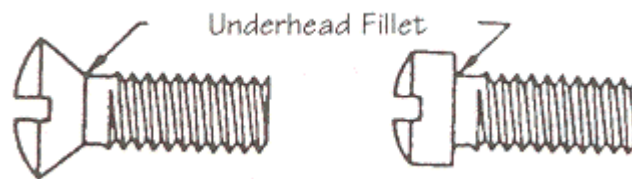
## 6. SUPPLEMENTARY CRITERIA

### 6.1 Underhead Fillet.

A screw should have a controlled fillet at the junction of the head with the body. Because of the severe combined torsion and tension stresses at this junction when torquing the head, the minimum limits of the fillet radius should be specified. Because the screw must be capable of being turned through a minimum clearance hole and into an immovable tapped hole the maximum limits of the fillet radius should be specified to assure solid seating of the head, and to prevent interference at the top of the hole with the junction of head to body.

EXAMPLE:

Underhead Fillet. An underhead fillet is the concave junction at the head and the shank intersection of a headed fastener.

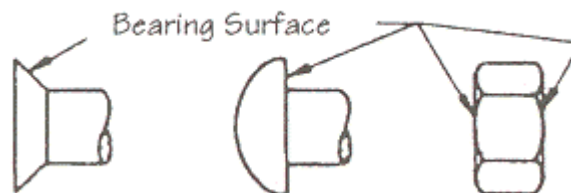


## 6.2 Bearing Surface.

The underhead bearing surface of a screw should be smooth and flat to minimize frictional resistance during tightening, to prevent scoring of the surface against which the head is turned, and to produce uniform clamping loads.

EXAMPLE:

Bearing Surface. The bearing surface is the supporting or locating surface of a fasteners with respect to the part which it fastens (mates). The loading of a fastener is usually through the bearing surface.

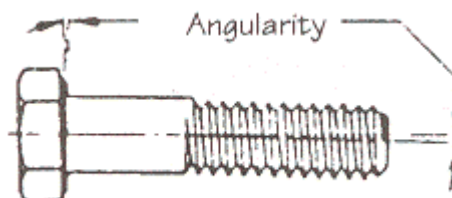


## 6.3 Head Angularity

The angularity (squareness) of the underhead bearing surface with the shank of a screw should be controlled to minimize eccentric loading in the screw or assembled parts, and to assure complete seating and uniform underhead bearing pressure.

EXAMPLE:

Angularity. Angularity is the angle between the axes of two surfaces of a fastener.

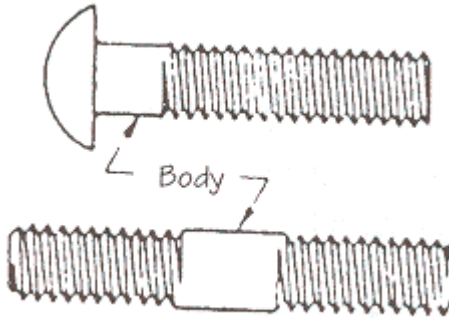


## 6.4 Body

The body of a screw should be closely controlled in accuracy of size and roundness. To fit effectively through a minimum clearance hole, the body diameter must have close tolerances, preferably unilateral on the minus side.

### EXAMPLE:

Body. The body of a threaded fastener is the unthreaded portion.



## 6.5 Shank Straightness.

The shank of a screw should be particularly straight to permit ready engagement with the internal thread, to prevent eccentric loading in the fastener or in the assembled parts, and to minimize interference with the walls of a minimum clearance hole.

### EXAMPLE:

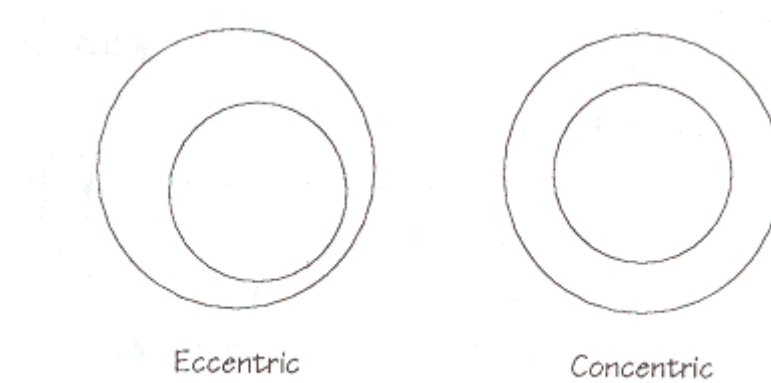
Bow or Camber. Bow or camber is the amount that a side of a surface of a fastener deviates from being straight.



## 6.6 Thread Concentricity

The threads of a screw should be concentric with the body axis within close limits to permit assembly into a tapped hole (which usually has a length of thread engagement longer than a nut) without binding of the body against the walls of a minimum clearance hole.

EXAMPLE:



**6.7 Thread length.**

The length of thread on a screw must be sufficient to develop the full strength of the fastener in tapped holes in various materials.

DEFINITION:

“Length of complete thread” is defined in *Fastener Standards* 6th Edition as: the axial length of a thread section having full form at both crest and root but also including a maximum of two pitches at the start of the thread which may have a chamfer or incomplete crests.

**6.8 Point.**

A screw should have a chamfered, or other specially prepared point at its end to facilitate entry into the hole and easy start with the internal thread, which may be distant from the top of the hole. The point also protects the first thread, which, if damaged, may gall or scar the internal thread throughout its entire length.

EXAMPLE:

Point. The point of a fastener is the configuration of the end of the shank of a headed fastener or of each end of a headless fastener.

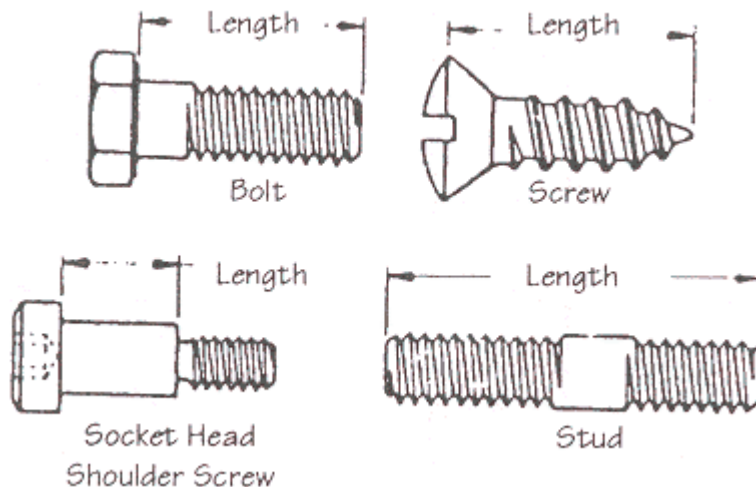


## 6.9 Length.

The length of a screw should be closely toleranced with variance preferably unilateral on the minus side to prevent bottoming of the fastener in a tapped hole.

### EXAMPLE:

Length. The length of a headed fastener is the distance from the intersection of the largest diameter of the head with the bearing surface to the extreme point, measured in a line parallel to the axis of the fastener. Exceptions: The length of a shoulder screw and a socket head shoulder screw is the length of the shoulder. The length of a headless fastener is the distance from one extreme point to the other, measured in a line parallel to the axis of the fastener.



## III. INVOICING

The accuracy of the information contained on invoices is an essential element of the structure of the many new and creative programs Customs has undertaken recently. These programs, including, but not limited to, automated entry processing and pre-importation review, may only provide their benefits to the trade community as a whole if the data gathered are correct and complete. This concern for invoice accuracy is not new, but, as we progress in automation, accuracy becomes indispensable.

Section 141.86 of the Customs Regulations concerns invoicing requirements. Subparagraph (a)(3) of the section specifically requires invoices have the following information:

“A detailed description of the merchandise, including the name by which each item is known, the grade or quality, and the marks, numbers and symbols under which sold by the seller or manufacturer to the trade in the country of exportation, together with the marks and numbers of the packages in which the merchandise is packed.”

A “detailed description” is one which enables an import specialist to properly fix the classification of imported merchandise. Accordingly, the invoice description must indicate any information which has a direct bearing on the proper classification of the imported item and it is incumbent upon the importer of record to ensure that the detailed description is present on each invoice.

Importers do not have to provide information that is not necessary to classify a specific item. However, they are responsible for giving the Customs Service the information that is needed.

Invoice guidelines for the importation of bolts and screws should include the following:

**Industry Standards:**

List all industry standards to which the fastener is made to conform.

**Description:**

If the industry standard includes a prescribed method of designation, use that method. In all cases, include: all dimensions, number of threads per inch, product name, head type, point type and component material.

**Component Material:**

State the name of the material (which predominates by weight), e.g., steel, stainless steel, nickel, titanium, copper, etc. For fasteners of high nickel alloy; state percentage by weight of: iron, nickel and chromium.

**Grade:**

State the fastener grade, and identify the grading system.



# APPENDIX Heading 7318 HTSUS

## Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (2000) (Rev. 2)

Annotated for Statistical Reporting Purposes

XV  
73-29

Heading/ Subheading	Stat. Suf- fix	Article Description	Unit of Quantity	Rates of Duty		
				1		2
				General	Special	
7318		Screws, bolts, nuts, coach screws, screw hooks, rivets, cotter pins, washers (including spring washers) and similar articles, of iron or steel:				
		Threaded articles:				
7318.11.00	00	Coach screws . . . . .	kg . . . . .	12.5%	Free (A+,B,CA,E,IL,J) 3.7% (MX)	25%
7318.12.00	00	Other wood screws . . . . .	kg . . . . .	12.5%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL,J,MX)	25%
7318.13.00		Screw hooks and screw rings . . . . .		5.7%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL,J,MX)	45%
	30	Having shanks or threads with a diameter of less than 6 mm . . . . .	kg			
	60	Having shanks or threads with a diameter of 6 mm or more . . . . .	kg			
7318.14		Self-tapping screws:				
7318.14.10		Having shanks or threads with a diameter of less than 6 mm . . . . .		6.2%	Free (A+,B,CA,E,IL,J) 1.8% (MX)	45%
	30	Of stainless steel . . . . .	kg			
	60	Other . . . . .	kg			
7318.14.50	00	Having shanks or threads with a diameter of 6 mm or more . . . . .	kg . . . . .	8.6%	Free (A+,B,CA,E,IL,J) 2.8% (MX)	45%
7318.15		Other screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts or washers:				
7318.15.20		Bolts and bolts and their nuts or washers entered or exported in the same shipment . . . . .		Free		3.5%
	10	Having shanks or threads with a diameter of less than 6 mm . . . . .	kg			
		Having shanks or threads with a diameter of 6 mm or more:				
	20	Track bolts . . . . .	kg			
	30	Structural bolts . . . . .	kg			
	40	Bent bolts . . . . .	kg			
		Other:				
	50	With round heads . . . . .	kg			
	60	With hexagonal heads . . . . .	kg			
	90	Other . . . . .	kg			
7318.15.40	00	Machine screws 9.5 mm or more in length and 3.2 mm or more in diameter (not including cap screws) . . . . .	kg . . . . .	Free		2.2¢/kg
7318.15.50		Studs . . . . .		Free		45%
	30	Of stainless steel . . . . .	kg			
	60	Other . . . . .	kg			
7318.15.60		Other:				
		Having shanks or threads with a diameter of less than 6 mm . . . . .		6.2%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL,J) 1.8% (MX) <sup>1/</sup>	45%
	30	Of stainless steel . . . . .	kg			
	60	Other . . . . .	kg			

<sup>1/</sup> See subheading 9906.73.18.

## Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (2000) (Rev. 2)

Annotated for Statistical Reporting Purposes

XV  
73-30

Heading/ Subheading	Stat. Suf- fix	Article Description	Unit of Quantity	Rates of Duty		
				1		2
				General	Special	
7318 (con.)		Screws, bolts, nuts, coach screws, screw hooks, rivets, cotters, cotter pins, washers (including spring washers) and similar articles, of iron or steel (con.):				
		Threaded articles (con.):				
7318.15 (con.)		Other screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts or washers (con.):				
		Other (con):				
7318.15.80		Having shanks or threads with a diameter of 6 mm or more . . . . .		8.5%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL, J) 2.8% (MX) <u>1</u> /	45%
	20	Set screws . . . . .	kg			
		Other:				
		Socket screws:				
	30	Of stainless steel . . . . .	kg			
	45	Other . . . . .	kg			
		Other:				
		With hexagonal heads:				
	55	Of stainless steel . . . . .	kg			
	65	Other . . . . .	kg			
	80	Other . . . . .	kg			
7318.16.00		Nuts . . . . .		Free		0.5%
		Lugnuts:				
	15	Non-locking chrome-plated . . . . .	kg			
	30	Locking . . . . .	kg			
	45	Other . . . . .	kg			
		Other:				
	60	Of stainless steel . . . . .	kg			
	85	Other . . . . .	kg			
7318.19.00	00	Other . . . . .	kg	5.7%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL, J,MX)	45%
		Non-threaded articles:				
7318.21.00		Spring washers and other lock washers . . . . .		5.8%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL, J,MX)	35%
	30	Helical spring lock washers . . . . .	kg			
	90	Other . . . . .	kg			
7318.22.00	00	Other washers . . . . .	kg	Free		1.3¢/kg
7318.23.00	00	Rivets . . . . .	kg	Free		2.2¢/kg
7318.24.00	00	Cotters and cotter pins . . . . .	kg	3.8%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL, J,MX)	45%
7318.29.00	00	Other . . . . .	kg	2.8%	Free (A,B,CA,E,IL, J,MX)	45%

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### The Internet

The U. S. Customs Service's home page on the Internet's World Wide Web, provides the trade community with current, relevant information regarding Customs operations and items of special interest. The site posts information -- which includes proposed regulations, news releases, Customs publications and notices, etc. -- that can be searched, read on-line, printed or downloaded to your person computer. The web site was established as a trade-friendly mechanism to assist the importing and exporting community. The web site links to the Customs Electronic Bulletin Board (CEBB), an older electronic system on which Customs notices and drafts were posted. Since December, 1999 the CEBB has been only accessible through the web site. The web site also links to the home pages of many other agencies whose importing or exporting regulations Customs helps to enforce. Customs web site also contains a wealth of information of interest to a broader public than the trade community -- to international travelers, for example.

The Customs Service's web address is <http://www.customs.gov>.

### Customs Regulations

The current edition of *Customs Regulations of the United States* is a loose-leaf, subscription publication available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402; telephone 202-512-1800. A bound, 2000 edition of Title 19, *Code of Federal Regulations*, which incorporates all changes to the Customs Regulations from April 1999 through March 2000, is also available for sale from the same address. All proposed and final regulations are published in the *Federal Register*, which is published daily by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, and distributed by the Superintendent of Documents. Information about on-line access to the *Federal Register* may be obtained by calling (202) 512-1530 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time. These notices are also published in the weekly *Customs Bulletin*, described below.

### Customs Bulletin

The *Customs Bulletin and Decisions* ("*Customs Bulletin*") is a weekly publication that contains decisions, rulings, regulatory proposals, notices and other information of interest to the trade community. It also contains decisions issued by the U.S. Court of International Trade, as well as Customs-related decisions of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Each year, the Government Printing Office publishes bound volumes of the Customs Bulletin. Subscriptions may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents at the address and phone number listed above.

## Importing Into the United States

This publication provides an overview of the importing process and contains general information about import requirements. The 1998 edition of *Importing Into the United States* contains much new and revised material brought about pursuant to the Customs Modernization Act ("Mod Act"). The Mod Act has fundamentally altered the relationship between importers and the Customs Service by shifting to the importer the legal responsibility for declaring the value, classification, and rate of duty applicable to entered merchandise.

The 1998 edition contains a new section entitled "Informed Compliance." A key component of informed compliance is the shared responsibility between Customs and the import community, wherein Customs communicates its requirements to the importer, and the importer, in turn, uses reasonable care to assure that Customs is provided accurate and timely data pertaining to his or her importations.

Single copies may be obtained from local Customs offices or from the Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20229. An on-line version is available at the Customs web site. *Importing Into the United States* is also available for sale, in single copies or bulk orders, from the Superintendent of Documents by calling (202) 512-1800, or by mail from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7054.

## Video Tapes

The Customs Service has prepared a series of video tapes in VHS format for the trade community and other members of the public. As of the date of this publication, four tapes are available and are described below.

If you would like more information on any of the tapes described below, or if you would like to order them, please send a written request to: U.S. Customs Service, Office of Regulations and Rulings, Suite 3.4A, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20229, Attn: Operational Oversight Division. Orders must be accompanied by a *check or money order drawn on a U.S. financial institution* and made payable to U.S. Customs Service. Prices include postage.

- *Rules of Origin for Textiles and Apparel Products* is a two-hour tape aimed at increasing understanding of the new rules, which became effective July 1, 1996. Copies of this tape are available from many trade organizations, customs brokers, consultants and law firms, or it can be ordered from the U.S. Customs Service for \$20.00.
- *Customs Compliance: Why You Should Care* is a 30-minute tape divided into two parts. Part I, almost 18 minutes in length, is designed to provide senior

executives and others in the importing or exporting business with an overview of the significant features of the Customs Modernization Act and the reasons to adopt new strategies in order to minimize legal exposure under the Act.

Part II is intended primarily for import/export compliance officers, legal departments and company officers. About 12 minutes long, Part II explains why Customs and the trade can benefit from sharing responsibilities under Customs laws. It also provides viewers with legal detail on record keeping, potential penalties for noncompliance, and on the Customs prior-disclosure program. The cost is \$15.00.

- *Account Management: Team Building for World Trade*, a 13-½-minute tape on account management, discusses what account management is and why there is a need for it. Account Management is a new approach to working with the trade in which a company is treated as an account, rather than being dealt with on a transaction by transaction basis. The tape includes discussions with Customs account managers and representatives of importers (“accounts”) relating to the benefits of account management from the perspectives of the both the Customs Service and the trade community. The cost is \$15.00.
- *General-Order Warehousing: Rules for Handling Unclaimed Merchandise*, 90 minutes long, was prepared jointly by the Customs Service and the trade community on the subject of general-order merchandise (unclaimed goods). The tape includes question and answer discussions that define procedures required to implement the new general-order laws and regulations and why there is a need to have effective procedures for handling unclaimed goods. The cost is \$15.00.

## Informed Compliance Publications

The U. S. Customs Service has prepared a number of Informed Compliance publications in the “*What Every Member of the Trade Community Should Know About...*” series. As of the date of this publication, the subjects listed below were available. The first date shown is the original publication date. The second date, if any, is the most recent revision.

- <sup>4</sup> 1. Customs Value (‘5/96, <sup>4</sup>Revised 12/99)
- <sup>1</sup> 2. Raw Cotton: Tariff Classification and Import Quotas (5/13/96)
- <sup>1</sup> 3. NAFTA for Textiles & Textile Articles (5/14/96)
- 4. Buying & Selling Commissions (‘6/96, Revised 1/2000)
- <sup>1</sup> 5. Fibers & Yarn (8/96)
- <sup>3</sup> 6. Textile & Apparel Rules of Origin (‘10/96, Revised 11/98)
- <sup>1</sup> 7. Mushrooms (10/96)
- <sup>1</sup> 8. Marble (11/96)
- <sup>1</sup> 9. Peanuts (11/96)
- 10. Bona Fide Sales & Sales for Exportation (‘11/96, Revised 1/2000)

- <sup>2</sup> 11. Caviar (2/97)
- <sup>2</sup> 12. Granite (2/97)
- 13. Distinguishing Bolts from Screws (25/97, Revised 5/2000)
- <sup>2</sup> 14. Internal Combustion Piston Engines (5/97)
- <sup>2</sup> 15. Vehicles, Parts and Accessories (5/97)
- <sup>2</sup> 16. Articles of Wax, Artificial Stone and Jewelry (8/97)
- <sup>2</sup> 17. Tariff Classification (11/97)
- <sup>2</sup> 18. Classification of Festive Articles (11/97)
- <sup>3</sup> 19. Ribbons & Trimmings (1/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 20. Agriculture Actual Use (1/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 21. Reasonable Care (1/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 22. Footwear (1/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 23. Drawback (3/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 24. Lamps, Lighting and Candle Holders (3/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 25. NAFTA Eligibility and Building Stone (3/98, Revised 12/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 26. Rules of Origin (5/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 27. Records and Recordkeeping Requirements (6/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 28. ABC's of Prior Disclosure (6/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 29. Gloves, Mittens and Mitts (6/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 30. Waste & Scrap under Chapter 81 (6/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 31. Tableware, Kitchenware, Other Household Articles and Toilet Articles of Plastics (11/98)
- <sup>3</sup> 32. Textile & Apparel Rules of Origin Index of Rulings (11/98)
- <sup>4</sup> 33. Knit to Shape Apparel Products (1/99)
- <sup>4</sup> 34. Hats and Other Headgear (under HTSUS 6505) (3/99)
- <sup>4</sup> 35. Customs Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (6/99)
- <sup>4</sup> 36. Classification of Children's Apparel (6/99)
- 37. Accreditation of Laboratories and Gaugers (4/99, Revised 3/2000)
- <sup>4</sup> 38. Classification of Sets (9/99)
- <sup>4</sup> 39. Marking Requirements for Wearing Apparel (9/99)
- <sup>4</sup> 40. Fiber Trade Names & Generic Terms (11/99)
- <sup>4</sup> 41. NAFTA Country of Origin Rules for Monumental & Building Stone (12/99)
- 42. Diodes, Transistors & Similar Semiconductor Devices (1/2000)
- 43. Soldering and Welding Machines and Apparatus (1/2000)
- 44. Cane and Beet Sugar (Quota, Classification & Entry) (1/00, Revised 3/2000)
- 45. Turbojets, Turbopropellers and Other Gas Turbines, (HTSUS 8411) and Parts Thereof (1/2000)
- 46. Writing Instruments of Heading 9609 HTSUS (1/2000)
- 47. New Decisions on Candle Holders v. Decorative Glass Articles (2/2000)
- 48. Customs Brokers (3/2000)
- 49. Proper Deductions for Freight and Other Costs from Customs Value (3/2000)
- 50. Table and Kitchen Glassware (3/2000)
- 51. Coated Nonalloy Flat-Rolled Steel (3/2000)
- 52. Customs Administrative Enforcement Process: Fines, Penalties, Forfeitures and Liquidated Damages (4/2000)
- 53. Wadding, Gauze, Bandages & Similar Articles (HTSUS 3005) (4/2000)

- 54. Tractors (HTSUS 8701) vs. Heavy Industrial Machinery (HTSUS 8429 & 8430) (4/2000)
- 55. Classification and Marking of Watches and Clocks (5/2000)

■ indicates publications which are, or will be, available for downloading from the Customs Electronic Bulletin Board or through Customs web site on the Internet:  
<http://www.customs.gov>

<sup>1</sup> denotes reprinted in 30/31 *Customs Bulletin No.50/1*, January 2, 1997;

<sup>2</sup> denotes reprinted in 32 *Customs Bulletin No.2/3*, January 21, 1998;

<sup>3</sup> denotes reprinted in 32 *Customs Bulletin No. 51*, December 23, 1998.

<sup>4</sup> denotes reprinted in 33 *Customs Bulletin No. 51*, December 22, 1999

Check the Customs Internet web site for more recent publications.

## Value Publications

*Customs Valuation under the Trade Agreements Act of 1979* is a 96-page book containing a detailed narrative description of the customs valuation system, the customs valuation title of the Trade Agreements Act (§402 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. §1401a)), the Statement of Administrative Action which was sent to the U.S. Congress in conjunction with the TAA, regulations (19 CFR §§152.000-152.108) implementing the valuation system (a few sections of the regulations have been amended subsequent to the publication of the book) and questions and answers concerning the valuation system. A copy may be obtained from the U.S. Customs Service, Office of Regulations and Rulings, Value Branch, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20229.

*Customs Valuation Encyclopedia* (with updates) is comprised of relevant statutory provisions, Customs Regulations implementing the statute, portions of the Customs Valuation Code, judicial precedent, and administrative rulings involving application of valuation law. A copy may be purchased for a nominal charge from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7054. This publication is also available on the Customs Service Internet web site.

The information provided in this publication is for general information purposes only. Recognizing that many complicated factors may be involved in customs issues, an importer may wish to obtain a ruling under Customs Regulations, 19 CFR Part 177, or obtain advice from an expert (such as a licensed customs broker, attorney or consultant) who specializes in Customs matters. Reliance solely on the general information in this pamphlet may not be considered reasonable care.

Additional information may be also be obtained from Customs ports of entry. Please consult your telephone directory for a Customs office near you. The listing will be found under U.S. Government, Treasury Department.

### **“Your Comments are Important”**

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